

राजस्थान सरकार
निर्वाचन विभाग

क्रमांक: एफ.8(2)(3)/निर्वा/2013/1661

जयपुर दिनांक 10-05-2013

प्रेषक: मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारी,
राजस्थान, जयपुर।

प्रेषित: समस्त जिला निर्वाचन अधिकारी,
(कलक्टर) राजस्थान।

विषय: आगामी विधान सभा आम चुनाव वर्ष 2013 – स्वतंत्र एवं निष्पक्ष चुनाव के उपाय –
क्रिटिकल मतदान केन्द्रों की पहचान।

संदर्भ: भारत निर्वाचन आयोग का पत्र क्रमांक 464/INST/2007-PLN-1 दिनांक 12.10.2007,
क्रमांक 464/INST/2007-PLN-1 दिनांक 12.10.2007 तथा क्रमांक 464/INST/2008-
EPS दिनांक 24.10.2008

महोदय,

उपरोक्त विषय में आपका ध्यान भारत निर्वाचन आयोग के संदर्भित परिपत्र दिनांक 12.10.2004 की ओर आकर्षित किया जाता है जिसमें क्रिटिकल मतदान केन्द्रों को चिन्हित करने, भयग्रस्त निर्वाचकों की पहचान करने और निरोधात्मक उपायों के सम्बन्ध में दिशा निर्देश दिए गए हैं। आयोग के परिपत्र क्रमांक 464/INST/2007-PLN-1 दिनांक 12.10.2007 जिसकी प्रति परिशिष्ट-1 पर संलग्न है में बताया गया है कि निर्वाचकों के भयग्रस्त समूहों/गांवों/ढाणियों की पहचान किस प्रकार की जानी है और इसके लिए किस प्रकार के उपाय अपनाये जाने हैं। आयोग के परिपत्र क्रमांक 464/INST/2007-PLN-1 दिनांक 12.10.2007 जिसकी प्रति परिशिष्ट-2 पर संलग्न है तथा परिपत्र क्रमांक 464/INST/2008-EPS दिनांक 24.10.2008 जिसकी प्रति परिशिष्ट-3 पर संलग्न है, में क्रिटिकल मतदान केन्द्रों के चिन्हिकरण के लिए निर्धारित मापदण्ड तथा किए जाने वाले उपायों के बारे में निर्देश हैं।

आयोग के उक्त निर्देशों के अनुसार क्रिटिकल मतदान केन्द्रों की पहचान की कार्यवाही शीघ्र ही प्रारम्भ की जानी है जिसके लिए निम्नांकित बिन्दुओं पर सूचनाएं तैयार किया जाना अपेक्षित है :-

1. मतदान केन्द्रों की सूची Non EPIC Voters (Residual Voters) के सन्दर्भ में अवरोही क्रम (Descending Order) में विधानसभावार तैयार कर ली जावें।
2. ऐसे मतदान केन्द्र जहाँ परिवार सहित अनुपस्थित मतदाताओं (Missig voters without family links) का प्रतिशत पूरे विधानसभा क्षेत्र के प्रतिशत से अधिक है।
3. ऐसे मतदान केन्द्र जहाँ गत विधानसभा आम चुनाव वर्ष 2008 के दौरान मतदान 75 प्रतिशत से अधिक रहा हो और उसमें 75 प्रतिशत मत किसी एक अभ्यर्थी के पक्ष में गए हों।
4. ऐसे मतदान केन्द्र जो परिशिष्ट-1 पर संलग्न आयोग के परिपत्र दिनांक 12.10.2007 के दिशानिर्देशों के अंतर्गत Vulnerable pockets में स्थित है।

5. ऐसे मतदान केन्द्र जहाँ गत आम चुनाव में चुनाव संबंधी अनियमितताओं के कारण पुनर्मतदान हुआ था या जिन मतदान केन्द्रों पर चुनाव-जन्य हिंसा हुई थी।

उपरोक्त बिन्दुओं में क्रम संख्या 1, 3 एवं 5 की सूचना आपके पास पूर्व से ही उपलब्ध है। बिन्दु संख्या 2 के अनुसार Absentee Voters without family linkage की सूचना आपको एकत्रित करवानी है जो मौके पर सर्वे कराकर एक माह की अवधि में तैयार करा ली जावे। इस विषय में विस्तृत निर्देश पृथक से भी प्रेषित किए जा रहे हैं। बिन्दु संख्या 4 के अनुसार Vulnerable Pockets की सूचना भी तैयार कराई जानी है, जिसके लिए **परिशिष्ट-1** पर संलग्न आयोग के परिपत्र के अनुसार कार्यवाही करते हुए प्रारम्भिक सूचना दिनांक 25.06.2013 तक एकत्रित करली जावे।

उपरोक्तानुसार उपलब्ध सूचनाओं के आधार पर क्रिटिकल मतदान केन्द्रों की सूची दिनांक 30.06.2013 तक तैयार करली जावे। यह सूची समय-समय पर अद्यतन की जाएगी। यह भी उल्लेखनीय है कि मतदान केन्द्रों को चार श्रेणियों में विभाजित कर इनकी सूची तैयार की जावे। क्रिटिकल मतदान केन्द्रों की चार श्रेणियाँ निम्न प्रकार से बनाई जावे:-

- (i) जिन मतदान केन्द्रों में Residual Voters (फोटो मतदाता पहचान से शेष रहे मतदाता) की संख्या 10 प्रतिशत या इससे अधिक है, उसे "S-1" की श्रेणी में रखा जावे।
- (ii) जिन मतदान केन्द्रों में Absentee Voters (without family links) की संख्या विधान क्षेत्र के ऐसे मतदाताओं के औसत से अधिक है उसे "S-2" की श्रेणी में रखा जावे।
- (iii) जिन मतदान केन्द्रों में गत विधानसभा आम चुनाव में 75 प्रतिशत से अधिक मतदान हुआ है और जिसमें 75 प्रतिशत मत एक अभ्यर्थी के पक्ष में गये हों, उसे "S-3" की श्रेणी में रखा जावे।
- (iv) जिस मतदान केन्द्र में Vulnerable Pockets स्थित हैं उसे "S-4" की श्रेणी दी जावे। जिन मतदान केन्द्रों में गत आम चुनाव में चुनाव संबंधी अनियमितता के कारण पुनर्मतदान हुआ हो या चुनाव-जन्य हिंसा हुई हो उसे भी "S-4" की श्रेणी में रखा जावे।

उपरोक्त श्रेणीवार क्रिटिकल मतदान केन्द्रों की सूची तैयार करने के उद्देश्य से प्रारूप संलग्न किया जा रहा है। संलग्न प्रारूप के कॉलम संख्या 10 में संबंधित मतदान केन्द्र की श्रेणी तदनुसार अंकित की जावे। यह भी उल्लेखनीय है कि यदि कोई मतदान केन्द्र एक से अधिक श्रेणियों में आता है तो तदनुसार सभी श्रेणी कॉलम संख्या 10 में अंकित की जावे।

उपरोक्तानुसार दिनांक 30.06.2013 तक तैयार की जाने वाली प्रारम्भिक सूची संलग्न प्रारूप में दिनांक 05.07.2013 तक इस विभाग को ई.मेल से आवश्यक रूप से प्रेषित की जावे।

संलग्न: उपरोक्तानुसार

भवदीय,
9/5

(अशोक जैन)

मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारी
राजस्थान, जयपुर।

No. and Name of Assembly Constituency

[illegible]

In Column No. 4 & 5 only the PSs of more than prescribed % of Residual Voters should be taken.

In Column NO. 6 & 7 only the PSs of above the average of AC should be taken.

In Column No. 8 information to be given on the basis of Form 20 of Assembly Election-2008.

In Column No. 9 PS identified as having vulnerable pockets should be indicated. Besides this PSs that went for re-poll or whereat electoral violence occurred in last election should also be indicated in this column.

MOST URGENT
BY FAX/CAMP BAG

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001.

No.464/INST/2007-PLN-I

Dated: 12th October, 2007

To

1. The Chief Secretaries of
All States/UTs.
2. The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States/UTs.

Sub: Measures to ensure free and fair elections- Prevention of intimidation to the voters of vulnerable sections of electorate- Mapping of Vulnerability-regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to state that the Commission has been issuing instructions regarding various measures to be taken to ensure free and fair elections. An atmosphere in which each and every elector is able to access the polling station without being obstructed or being unduly influenced by anybody is an important prerequisite to a free and fair election.

Undue influence at elections is an electoral offence under section 171C of the IPC. Any voluntary interference or attempt at interfering with the free exercise of any electoral right constitutes the crime of undue influence at an election. Section 123 (2) of the R.P Act 1951 defines, any direct or indirect interference or attempt to interfere on the part of the candidate or his agent, or of any other person with the consent of the candidate or his election agent with the free exercise of any electoral right, as a corrupt practice.

Taking due cognizance of the role being played by the muscle power in the elections and taking into account of certain prevailing socio economic realities of the electoral politics, the Commission has decided to issue the following instructions to curb the menace of threat and intimidation at elections by identifying the locations within a polling station area vulnerable for such threat and intimidation.

1. An exercise to identify the villages/ hamlets/habitats and segments of electorate vulnerable to any threat, intimidation or interference with the free exercise of electoral right shall be taken up polling station wise. The sector officers for their respective polling stations shall do this exercise by visiting the catchment area of the polling stations. The local *Thana* officer (SHO) and

local civil authorities such as BDO / Tehsildar shall also be consulted and their inputs taken into account before finalizing the list. They should identify the source of such threat/ intimidation and identify the names of persons who are likely to spearhead such offence of undue influence. While doing this exercise they shall take into account the past incidents, and current apprehensions.

2. They shall identify some point of contact within the habitat/ community vulnerable for such undue influence so that information related to such developments can be tracked constantly.
3. The Returning Officer of the Assembly Constituency should compile all such information and finalize the vulnerability mapping for the entire constituency, polling station wise in a format (enclosed).
4. The DEO and SP shall initiate all preventive measures to ensure that such intimidation/ obstruction do not really happen on the poll day. They shall initiate confidence-building measures to bolster the voters' confidence about the arrangements for free and fair poll. They shall undertake tours to such locations and meet the communities and explain the arrangements made for the free and fair poll.
5. The DEO/ RO shall interact with the candidates and representatives of political parties to gather regular feedback. The District Intelligence shall give regular feedback on the subject to the DEO through SP.
6. Upon the arrival of the Observers the DEO/ RO shall hand over the details of the polling station wise vulnerability mapping for the relevant Assembly Constituency. The Observer will also visit such locations and interact with the voters and constantly monitor the developments.
7. The DEO and Superintendent of Police of the District should hold a joint review on the subject and finalize a focused action plan to deal with the potential threats and intimidation points identified. The action plan may include, inter-alia, binding the identified trouble mongers under appropriate sections of the law, preventive detention if required, forcing their appearance in local police stations at reasonable intervals to ensure their good behavior, placement of police pickets, regular confidence building visits etc. It has to be ensured that all such measures are undertaken in absolutely non-partisan manner without fear or favour towards any particular party.
8. The Zonal/ and sector arrangements to monitor the events on the poll day shall take such pre-identified vulnerable locations into account for effective

tracking. If the normal sector route map does not cover the vulnerable locations special arrangements shall be made for this purpose. The Sector officers shall make regular visits to those villages and hamlets in advance and collect information and keep the senior officers informed.

9. Where there is a cluster of such vulnerable pockets, the DEO shall arrange for dedicated police teams/squads and locate them at convenient locations in the vicinity, to be pressed into service for action on the day of poll without any loss of time. It should invariably form part of the district security plan.
10. On the day of poll, the sector officers shall give special attention to verify whether voters from the vulnerable habitats/ communities are turning up for voting or not. In case, they find (it can be gauged from the marked copy of the electoral roll where voters who have voted are ticked) that some section of voters is conspicuously absent, then they should inform the Returning Officer about this immediately. The Returning Officer and DEO shall dispatch the dedicated squad specifically meant for this purpose, to ascertain, by a visit to the area/hamlet, that there is no hindrance – overt or covert – in movement of that section of voters. They should closely monitor the developments and initiate effective interventions. After the closing hours on the poll day, the sector officers shall submit a special report, polling station wise, in writing to the Returning Officers indicating as to whether voters from the vulnerable habitats were able to vote or not.
11. At the time of Dispatch of the polling parties at the Dispatch Centers the RO should brief the Presiding Officer concerned about the vulnerable locations within the Polling Station area. In the electoral roll the Section within the Part should also be marked for proper monitoring. The Presiding officers shall submit a report indicating abnormally low percentage of voter turnout if any within any section/sections, particularly, with reference to the vulnerable locations.
12. During the poll the Observers and other senior officers while visiting the polling station shall pay a special attention to this problem and find out whether any undue influence, intimidation/ obstruction is being caused.
13. The police patrolling parties should keep track of the vulnerable locations and keep the control room informed. Wherever necessary police pickets shall be established to ensure free access to all voters to cast their votes without fear.
14. The Commanders/Assistant Commanders of the CPMF shall be given a list of such vulnerable locations. Wherever CPMF arrives in advance for area domination, special attention shall be given for such locations. On the day of

poll the Commanders/Assistant Commanders shall make it a point to visit such vulnerable pockets as a confidence building measure. In case they come across any obstruction they shall take note of that and immediately inform any of the electoral officials such as RO/DEO/SP/Observer/Sector Officer and keep a note of the time of their intimation.

15. If any complaint is received or information gathered from any sources about obstruction/threat to any voter/voters the same shall be enquired into by the local administration without any delay.
16. The Returning Officer shall take the inputs on mass scale intimidation/threat/obstruction if any into consideration while submitting their report after the poll.
17. The Observers shall give their full attention to this issue and verify at every stage (before poll/on poll day) and submit reports to the Commission from time to time. A special mention shall be made about this in their final report. Apart from this they should make an intelligent reading of the Form 17A and the marked copy of the electoral roll used in the polling stations at the time of Form 17A scrutiny, ordered if any, by the Commission after the poll.
18. The Commission directs that accountability of various police and civil officials for vulnerability mapping and follow up at every stage shall be clearly defined with reference to each polling station/constituency. Severe disciplinary action will be initiated in case of dereliction of duty on the part of any police/civil officials in this matter.

This shall be brought to the notice of all concerned.

Yours faithfully,

(K.N. BHAR)
UNDER SECRETARY

Format for Collection of Information on Vulnerable Hamlets

District: _____

Constituency: _____

Polling Station no. and Name	Names of hamlets covered by the P.S.	Name of Hamlets identified as vulnerable	Name of persons identified as probable source of trouble	Remarks (Type of Threat, e.g. caste domination, communal tension, criminal gangs etc)
1	2	3	4	5

परिशिष्ट-2

MOST URGENT
BY FAX/CAMP BAG

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001.

No.464/INST/2007-PLN-I

Dated: 12th October, 2007

To

1. The Chief Secretaries of
All States/UTs.
2. The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States/UTs.

Subject:- Identification of critical polling stations and measures to be taken to ensure free and fair elections.

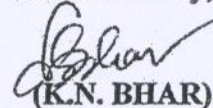
Sir,

I am directed to say that in order to ensure free and fair elections the Commission has decided to deploy CPMF in all polling stations. However, in order to identify the critical polling stations, which may require some more additional measures, it is necessary to spell out certain objective criteria to be followed by the DEO/RO as under :-

1. An analysis of the polling station wise number of voters with EPIC and without EPIC (non EPIC voters) shall be made. The polling stations shall be sorted in descending order in terms of number of non-EPIC voters in order to prioritize.
2. The Commission had recently directed a survey of missing voters under two categories i.e. missing voters with family links and missing voters without family links. Out of these two categories the existence of missing voters without family links offers a scope for misuse and malpractice. The number of voters coming under the second category shall be analyzed polling station wise and the Polling Station with large number of such voters shall be marked. For this purpose the total number of such missing voters without family linkage shall be divided by the total number of polling stations to workout the assembly constituency average. Analyzing the deviation above the average shall identify the polling stations with large number of such voters.
3. During the election the DEOs/ROs may be asked to do a vulnerability mapping of hamlets/villages/electoral segments vulnerable for threat and intimidation. Polling stations identified as having vulnerable pockets shall be listed.
4. The polling station wise election results available in Form 20 with reference to the past general election shall be analyzed. All such Polling Station where percentage of poll recorded is more than 75% and where more than 75% of votes have been recorded in favour of one candidate shall be identified as critical polling station.

5. The polling stations that went for repoll during the previous election due to reported electoral malpractices; the polling stations that witnessed any sort of electoral violence shall also be identified.
6. The DEOs and ROs shall factor all the above inputs while finally identifying the critical polling stations for additional measures. The ECI Observers shall be consulted while finalizing the list of critical polling stations as per the above instructions.
7. The response protocol to be followed with reference to the vulnerable villages/hamlets/electoral segments has been detailed vide Commission's letter 464/INST/2007-PLN-I Dated 12th October, 2007. These instructions shall be implemented without fail.
8. With reference to polling stations identified as critical polling stations on account of other indicators listed above one or all of the following measures shall be put in place.
 - a. The presence of CPMF to safe guard the polling station is a MUST.
 - b. Digital camera or video camera shall be positioned in the polling station. The procedure for deploying such cameras has been given vide letter No.447/2007/PLN-IV, dated 17.01.2007.
 - c. The Presiding Officer shall be specially briefed to ensure that the EPIC/approved identification document, if any are properly verified and reflected in the remarks column of Form 17 A.
 - d. The list of such polling stations shall be given to the Commanding/Assistant Commanding Officers of CPMF so that they can also keep an eye on such polling stations.
9. This shall be brought to the notice of all concerned. A copy of the circular be handed over to all Observers through DEOs.

Yours faithfully,


(K.N. BHAR)

UNDER SECRETARY

BY FAX/CAMP BAG

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001.

No.464/INST/2008-EPS

Dated: 24th October, 2008

To

1. The Chief Secretaries of
All States/UTs.
2. The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States/UTs.

Subject:- Identification of critical polling stations and measures to be taken
to ensure free and fair elections

Sir,

In supersession of Commission's instructions contained in its letter No. 464/INST/2007-PLN-I dated the 12th October, 2007, I am directed to say that in order to ensure free and fair elections the Commission has decided to deploy CPF in all polling stations. However, in order to identify the critical polling stations, which may require some more additional measures, it is necessary to spell out certain objective criteria to be followed by the DEO/RO as under :-

1. An analysis of the polling station wise number of voters with EPIC and without EPIC (non EPIC voters) shall be made. The polling stations shall be sorted in descending order in terms of number of non-EPIC voters in order to prioritize.
2. The Commission had recently directed a survey of missing voters under two categories i.e. missing voters with family links and missing voters without family links. Out of these two categories the existence of missing voters without family links offers a scope for misuse and malpractice. The number of voters coming under the second category shall be analyzed polling station wise and the Polling Station with large number of such voters shall be marked. For this purpose the total number of such missing voters without family linkage shall be divided by the total number of polling stations to workout the assembly constituency average. Analyzing the deviation above the average shall identify the polling stations with large number of such voters.
3. During the election the DEOs/ROs may be asked to do a vulnerability mapping of hamlets/villages/electoral segments vulnerable for threat and intimidation. Polling stations identified as having vulnerable pockets shall be listed.

4. The polling station wise election results available in Form 20 with reference to the past general election shall be analyzed. All such Polling Station where percentage of poll recorded is more than 75% and where more than 75% of votes have been recorded in favour of one candidate shall be identified as critical polling station.
5. The polling stations that went for repoll during the previous election due to reported electoral malpractices; the polling stations that witnessed any sort of electoral violence shall also be identified.
6. The DEOs and ROs shall factor all the above inputs while finally identifying the critical polling stations for additional measures. The ECI Observers shall be consulted while finalizing the list of critical polling stations as per the above instructions.
7. The response protocol to be followed with reference to the vulnerable villages/hamlets/electoral segments has been detailed vide Commission's letter 464/INST/2007-PLN-I Dated 12th October, 2007. These instructions shall be implemented without fail.
8. With reference to polling stations identified as **critical polling stations** on account of other indicators listed above one or all of the following measures shall be put in place.
 - a. The presence of CPF to safe guard the polling station.
 - b. Digital camera or video camera shall be positioned in the polling station. The procedure for deploying such cameras has been given vide letter No.447/2007/PLN-IV, dated 17.01.2007.
 - c. The Presiding Officer shall be specially briefed to ensure that the EPIC/approved identification document, if any are properly verified and reflected in the remarks column of Form 17 A.
 - d. The list of such polling stations shall be given to the Commanding/Assistant Commanding Officers of CPF so that they can also keep an eye on such polling stations.
 - e. Deployment of a micro-observer inside the polling station.
9. This shall be brought to the notice of all concerned. A copy of the circular be handed over to all Observers through DEOs.

Yours faithfully,

(SHANGARA RAM)
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY